indicating the facilities to be provided for the Dry Dock and the cost of the project; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) A dry port normally means provision of facilities like warehousing of cargo, customs clearance, stuffing/destuffing, banking, services of steamer agents, freight forwarders, etc., at points away from maritime ports. In India these facilities are being provided at Inland Container Depots (ICDs) and Container Freight Stations (CFSs) which have been set up at various places.

An Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) is functioning in the Ministry of Commerce to provide single window clearance to the proposals for setting up of Dry Ports Inland Container Depots/Container Freight Stations (ICDs/CFSs). A proposal of Central Warehousing Corporation for setting up of a CFS at Kandla was cleared by the said IMC. The CFS at Kandla is in operation since March, 1996. The entire area can be utilised for stuffing agricultural and horticultural export commodities and various other commodities which are generated from the hinterland of Punjab & Haryana besides Delhi and Rajasthan. No fresh proposal has been received for another dry port at Kandla.

Decline in India's Export Trade

1031. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's export trade has fallen;

(b) if so, the details of the export trade during the years 1994,1995 and so far in 1996;

(c) the reasons for the fall in export trade; and

(d) the measures Government propose to take/have taken to boost the trade?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As per DGCI&S data, the value of exports from India during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and April-Sept. 1996-97 were US $ 26330.28 million, US $ 31830.53 million and US $ 16139.76 million respectively.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Export promotion is a continuous process and steps are initiated by the Government to promote exports through simplification of policies and procedure, improving bilateral trade, debottlenecking of export infrastructure, enhancing the quality and competitive edge of Indian products.

Proposal to Decentralise the Operations of FCI

1032. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to decentralise the operations of the Food Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme under formulation; and

(c) by when it is likely to be announced?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Most of the operations of Food Corporation of India have already been decentralised at Zonal/Regional/District levels. The field offices are delegated with powers for carrying out the day to day working for smooth functioning of the Corporation.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

खाद्यान्नों के उत्पादन और उनकी खरीद में कमी

1033. प्रो॰ विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: क्या खाद्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या 1994-95 के मुकाबले 1995-96 में खाद्यान्नों के उत्पादन में 60 लाख टन की कमी हुई है;

(ख) क्या 1994-95 के मुकाबले 1995-96 में खाद्यान्नों की खरीद में 70 लाख टन की कमी हुई है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) सरकार खाद्यान्नों के उत्पादन में वृद्धि करने के लिए क्या कदम उठा रही है?